

laudable aim of winning hundreds and thousands of souls for Christ. For several years Dr. J. Ernest Thacker has represented the church in a general evangelistic campaign with marked success.

At the recent meeting of the Assembly the Committee of Home Missions was authorized to enlarge its operations and as soon as the way is clear several other general evangelists can be placed in the field. In the meantime the Executive Secretary of Home Missions was instructed to call for volunteers to give at least a month to evangelistic work. Already quite a number of our most earnest and successful pastors have indicated their willingness to respond to calls for their services.

The object of this writing is to notify churches and pastors who are contemplating evangelistic services in their pastorates, that the Executive Committee of Home Missions is prepared to assist them in securing capable men for special meetings, with but little outlay of expense. Any pastor or church desiring to hold special meetings in the next six months should write at once to Atlanta, and the Secretary will take pleasure in assisting in securing some minister with evangelistic gifts to conduct these special services.

Will not churches, pastors, individual Christians unite in earnest and special prayer for these meetings. Pentecost was preceded with the statement: "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." All genuine revivals are rooted and grounded in prayer. We issue this call to the church to be workers together with us, by first of all giving themselves to prayer till there shall come a "Time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." May the Spirit of God guide and give his gracious influence.

S. L. Morris, Secretary.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STEREO- OPTICON FUND FOR THE FILES VALLEY ORPHANS' HOME.

The subscriptions to this fund seem to have ceased entirely. If others come in, they can be published later. Of the sum called for, \$250.00, the following amounts have been received: J. H. Harrison, San Antonio, \$6; A Jewish Friend, Dallas, \$5; E. O. Tension, Dallas, \$2; Dr. E. W. Link, Palestine, \$3; Societies:—Temple, \$1; Itasca, \$1; San Marcos, \$1; Beeville, \$1; Fort Worth, Broadway, \$2; Lovington, N. M., \$1; Hamburg, Ark., \$1; Mart, Tex., \$1; Seguin, \$1; Victoria, \$1; Roanoke, \$1; Midland, \$1; Greenville, \$1; Colonial Hill, \$2; Gilford, \$1; Godley, \$1; Refugio, \$1; Ennis, \$1; Galveston, \$2; Hamilton, \$1; Goliad, \$1; Colorado, \$1; Sabinal, \$1; Seminole, \$1; Gonzales, \$1; McKinney, \$1; Llano, \$1; Belton, \$1; Brownsville, \$1; Westminster, \$1; First Church, Sherman, \$1; Temple, \$1; Denon, \$2; First Church, Fort Worth, \$2. Total \$54.

This shows how far short the contributions are of paying for the outfit. The children have had the outfit for some time and have had much pleasure and profit from the beautiful pictures, but you can see that some one is bearing a burden. We thank all who have helped and would be glad of the opportunity to thank others.

Mrs. D. G. McKellar, Treasurer Ladies' Aid Society, First Presbyterian Church.

Forney, Texas, August 1, 1912.

#### DAY OF PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS.

A national movement is on to have a Day of Prayer for Schools. The second Sabbath of September has been most appropriately designated. The schools are opening, the churches are filling,

the Sabbath schools are rallying. How can the year's work be better introduced than by praying for the children and youth?

The magnitude of the moral and spiritual interests involved in this vast work of education, or affected by it, commend this suggestion to all Christian citizens. For more than seventy years the Day of Prayer for Colleges has been observed by Christian people interested in these institutions, and incalculable results for good have been vouchsafed in answer to these prayers. But while the student world in the United States numbers not far from 300,000 persons, there are nearly eighteen millions in the common schools of the nation. For every student in our universities, colleges and professional schools there are seventy-five in our public schools. When we add the private schools, which, with certain classes, take the place of public schools, we have before us an agency which gathers under its influence, with insignificant exceptions, the children of the whole people, which is steadily making its work more thorough and complete and which is confessedly one of the strongest moulding forces at work upon the character of the nation.

What ought to be the bearing and effect of this great agency on the morals and religion of the people? This nation is, in important respects, a Christian nation. The education provided for her future citizens ought to correspond to the national character in this respect, and should aim to transmit that character to the coming generations. The supreme need of the nation is not for intelligent or mental culture in her citizens, important as these are, but that they shall be men and women of good moral character, able to distinguish between right and wrong, and resolved to do what is right and to avoid and resist what is wrong. The chief end, therefore, of the schools, to be held supreme above all mere intellectual culture, is to develop the moral nature of the pupils. If these positions are correct, it follows that any proposal to divorce education from the general, fundamental, unsectarian truths of religion, to make our education merely secular, and to absolve the teacher and the school from all responsibility except for the intellectual development of pupils, is subversive of the true American idea of education and fatal to the chief interest for which our schools were established. And yet this bald secular theory of education is accepted in wide educational circles. Many cities and many whole states are moulding their school system in accordance with it. This very disagreement as to the true nature and objects of education constitute a grave peril to the schools. Those who believe in God, and in the efficacy of prayer, will agree with us that interests so momentous and so urgent as these ought, by a Christian people, to be spread before the Hearer of Prayer.

The National Reform Association will send free of charge to all pastors who will use their pulpits any Lord's Day in September to inculcate vital Christian truth concerning the whole work of education, a valuable treatise on "The Bible in the Schools." This treatise in addition to being a strong argument in favor of the use of the Bible in the schools, contains, as the result of recent special investigation, an authentic up-to-date detailed outline by States and Territories of the situation of the Bible in the school question in America today together with a list of specially selected decisive opinions of United States Presidents, educators and famous men generally on

the relation of the Bible to civil and national life. For this, address Dr. J. S. Martin, 603-604 Publication Building, Pittsburg, Pa.

#### TENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MISSIONARY EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

In several ways, the Tenth Annual Conference of the Missionary Education Movement at Silver Bay, New York, July 12-22, was notable. It was the culmination of a decade of the Movement's work and the attendance was the largest, with one exception, of any conference of the movement. Including the leaders, the registration exceeded 550 persons. The personnel of the delegates was unusually high and their devotion to the study classes and faithful attendance at meetings of every kind, indicated deep interest.

The addresses at general meetings each evening, all of an inspirational character, were delivered by Robert E. Spear, Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, D. D., J. Campbell White, George Sherwood Eddy, Rev. J. H. Mellish, and Lemuel E. Barnes, D. D. Bishop Arthur S. Lloyd, President of the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and Rev. Lynn H. Hough, of Baltimore, preached the sermons on the two Sunday mornings of the conference.

A very practical feature of the conference was the open parlaments at which many phases of missionary education in the local church were discussed. Much interest was shown by the delegates in the Life Work Meeting and several persons volunteered for foreign or home mission work. Other delegates returned home seriously considering the giving of themselves to some form of Christian work. The presence of several missionaries from the field proved most helpful, as they were able to speak first-hand of needs and conditions both at home and abroad, not only at platform meetings, but in personal talks with inquiring delegates.

The observance of the Tenth Anniversary on the evening of July 18th, was an occasion for congratulations and felicitations. Rev. John F. Goucher, D. D., of Baltimore, presided and several who participated in the organization of the movement ten years ago, as the Young People's Missionary Movement, took part in the exercises. S. Earl Taylor, now Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, read the minutes of the first meeting, which was held at Silver Bay, July 18, 1902. Charles V. Vickrey, Assistant Secretary of the Movement, traced its history; H. S. Myers, another Assistant Secretary, spoke of the present scope; Mr. Taylor delivered an address on the International Development of Mission Study and Harry Wade Hicks, General Secretary, discussed the outlook and needs in a most inspirational way. Short addresses by Miss Lucy C. Sturgis, of Boston, and Dr. T. H. P. Saller, of New York, representing the Episcopal and Presbyterian Boards, respectively, were made.

A particularly interesting feature of the conference was a sample China Missionary Exposition suitable for use in a local church. This was set up in one of the halls and in connection with it, each afternoon, there were demonstrations of Chinese life by costumed delegates. The scenic background for this exposition is owned by the Missionary Exposition Company of New York, which is, in fact, the exposition department of the Missionary Education Movement. The scenery is available for rental to local churches.

A summary of the progress of educational work for missions during the first decade of the movement's history, in

which advance the movement itself has taken a large part, was made by speakers at the Anniversary Meeting. This summary shows the following facts:

In 1902 only one mission board in the United States and one in Canada were promoting organized mission study; in 1912, there are 47 boards using the text-books and other publications of the movement.

During the present year approximately 175,000 persons have enrolled in mission study classes, using text-books prepared by the movement.

During its decade of history the Missionary Education Movement alone has published and distributed through the Mission Boards 1,129,297 volumes of missionary study text-books and other similar literature. During the decade preceding 1902, the total sale of mission study text-books and other mission study material used in the churches, amounted to less than 40,000 volumes (exclusive of the publications of the Student Volunteer Movement).

The first training conference for the better preparation of missionary leaders, having 168 in attendance, was held at Silver Bay in 1902. During the summer of 1912, more than 1,300 leaders from all sections of the United States and Canada are spending ten days in conferences under the direction of mission board secretaries outlining and organizing an educational campaign for the ensuing year. More than 10,000 leaders have received this training in the summer conferences of the Missionary Education Movement during the past ten years.

The Movement has developed two great missionary expositions, The World in Boston and The World in Cincinnati, in preparation for which more than 20,000 volunteer helpers were trained for two months in mission study classes. Other similar expositions are being organized under the direction of the movement in Baltimore, Chicago and other cities.

More than one hundred missionaries now on the field made their definite decision while attending one of the summer conferences of the movement. A much larger number have been similarly influenced in connection with mission study classes, missionary expositions and other phases of missionary education.

It is fair to assume that the more than a million mission study text-books and other literature prepared by the movement and used in the churches during the past decade, have been a large factor in securing the wonderful increase during the past decade in the annual contribution to missions of 456 per cent. or five and a half million dollars, over the previous decade.

At the quarterly meeting of the board of managers of the movement, held at Silver Bay during the conference four new members of the board were elected. Mr. W. W. Cleveland, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian church, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. B. Carter Millikin, Adult Study Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, New York City; Mr. Walter S. Schutz, of Hartford, Conn.; and Mr. L. H. Severance, of New York. Dr. Frank Mason North, Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Foreign Mission Board, was elected a member of the General Advisory Committee.

It was reported that of the Decennial Fund of \$50,000 the amount of \$36,000 has been paid in or subscribed in good pledges. The Board approved plans for the observance of Home Mission Week, November 17-24, and the Livingstone Centennial which falls upon March 19th, 1913.